## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DRC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SSO-00 /062 W

------098164 230700Z /10/72 R 161752Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5078

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CORRRECTEDCOPY (MRN 1967 VICE 167)

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1 TAGS: PINT PO

SUBJECT: PSD: SA CARNEIRO SLATE WINS DISTRICT ELECTION

REF: (A) LISBON 1731, (B) OPORTO 56

1. THE FOLLOWING CABLE IS REPEATED FROM AMCONSUL OPORTO. EMBASSY ENDORSES OPORTO'S SUGGESTION (PARA 5) TO EXTEND FACILITIVE ASSISTANCE TO AZEVEDO AND WIFE, WHO ARE BOTH MEMBERS OF PORTUGUESE DELEGATION TO NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY. SIMILAR COURTESIES SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO DR. NUNES, SOCIALIST MEMBER OF PORTUGUESE DELEGATION. NUNES, LIKE THE AZEVEDO'S, WILL BE STAYING AT THE MAYFLOWER.

2. BEGIN OPORTO CABLE: NORTHERNERS WANT SA CARNEIRO BACK: OPORTO SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC (PSD) DISTRICT COMMISSION ELECTED A NEW DISTRICT POLITICAL COUNCIL MARCH 11 IN A CONTEST BETWEEN SA CARNEIRO SUPPORTERS AND PROPONENTS OF THE SOUSA FRANCO LEADERSHIP. PSD DEPUTY AND FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR REFUGEES AMANDIO DE AZEVEDO HEADED A PRO-SA CARNEIRO SLATE. SOUSA FRANCO SUPPORTERS WERE LED BY NEW NATIONAL POLITICAL COMMISSION CONFIDENTIAL

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MEMBER VIEIRA DA CUNHA WHO OPPOSED SA CARNEIRO AT THE FIFTH PARTY CONGRESS. ONLY 136 DISTRICT DEPUTIES CAST BALLOTS OUT OF 300 ELIGIBLE VOTERS, MOST OF WHOM REPRESENT LOCAL PSD CHAPTERS IN THE PROPORTION OF ONE FOR EACH 50 MEMBERS. RESULTS WERE CONCLUSIVE: 98-38 IN FAVOR OF THE SLATE IDENTIFIED WITH SA CARNEIRO.

3. THE WAR OF WORDS CONTINUES: LOCAL PRESS ANNOUNCED MARCH 11 THAT A BOOKLET ENTITLED "THE IMPASSE/ WOULD BE RELEASED THIS WEEK ON THE EVE OF THE PSD NATIONAL POLITICAL COMMISION MEETING IN SANTAREM. "THE IMPSSE" IS REPORTEDLY A COLLECTION OF RECENT SA CARNEIRO ARTICLES AND INTERVIEWS PLUS INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS. SA CARNEIRO'S FULL SPEECH AT THE FIFTH PARTY CONGRESS AND AN ARTICLE HE HAD DRAFTED FOR THE PSD PAPER WHICH HAD SUBSEOUENTLY BEEN REJECTED BY PARTY LEADERS. A PRO-SA CARNEIRO MANIFESTO IS ALSO SAID TO BE CIRCULATING IN NORTHERN PSD CIRCLES. THE STATEMENT IS SIGNED BY A NUMBER OF LOCAL SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC RANK AND FILE. IT WARNS OF A NATIONAL POLITICAL EMERGENCY IN THE NOT-TOO-DISTANT FUTURE WHICH WOULD NECESSITATE THE IMMEDIATE RETURN BY THE PSD TO SA CARNEIRO'S POLICIES BEST HANDLED BY SA CARNEIRO HIMSELF.

4. MORE THAN HONEST DIFFERENCES: IN MARCH 13
CONVERSATION WITH AMCONSUL, AZEVEDO TRIED TO DOWNPLAY
CURRENT PSD FACTIONALISM. HE CALLED IT "HONEST
DIFFERENCES AMONG FRIENDS OVER TACTICS." AZEVEDO
CLAIMED SOME DISTRICT DEPUTIES VOTED AGAINST VIEIRA
DE CUNHA IN THE BELIEF HE SHOULD NOT SERVE SIMULTANEOUSLY
ON BOTH THE NATIONAL POLITICAL COMMISSION AND DISTRICT
COUNCIL. (AZEVEDO WAS UNCONVINCING ON BOTH COUNTS.)
FURTHERMORE, AZEVEDO THOUGHT SA CARNEIRO WOULD NOT
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RETURN FULLTIME TO POLITICS BEFORE 1980.

5. U.. VISIT OF AZEVEDO: AMANDIO DE AZEVEDO, ACCOMPANIED BY WIFE AMELIA, DAUGHTER, AND MOTHER, WILL BE MAKING FIRST TIME VISIT TO THE U.S. DEPARTING MARCH 17. BOTH MR. & MRS. AZEVEDO ARE PSD DEPUTIES IN THE ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC AND ALSO SERVED IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY. MR. AZEVEDO SERVES ON THE LABOR COMMITTEE, MRS. AZEVEDO IN EDUCATION. THEY WILL BE VISITING THE UNITED STATES AS PART OF A THREE-MAN DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AT THE ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY. THE THIRD MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION IS DR. JOSE LUIS NUNES, A PS MEMBER OF THE ASSEMBLY FROM OPORTO. THIS YEAR'S MEETING WILL BE HELD IN WASHINGTON ON MARCH 20-21. WHILE IN WASHINGTON, AZEVEDO AND HIS WIFE WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT (IN PARTICULAR THE PORTUGUESE DESK OFFICER) AND WITH MEMBERS OF BOTH POLITICAL PARTIES WHO WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO DISUCSS PARTY ORGANIZATION. THEY WILL BE STAYING AT THE HOTEL MAYFLOWER.

6. COMMENT: IT IS UNCLEAR HOW HEARD SA CARNEIRO WORKED BEHIND THE SCENES TO MAKE THE MARCH 11 ELECTION A REAL CONTEST RATHER THAN THE EXPECTED PRO FORMA APPROVAL OF A SINGLE SLATE (REFTEL A PARA 3). HOWEVER, SA CARNEIRO COULD EASILY HAVE STOPPED THE CONTEST GIVEN HIS CLOSE LONG-TIME RELATIONSHIP TO AZEVEDO. SA CARNEIRO CAN ALSO KEEP MANIFESTOS FROM CIRCULATING IN HIS BEHALF. FOR THE MOMENT SA CARNEIRO DOES NOT SEEM TO WANT TO GIVE THE SOUDA FRANCO LEADERSHIP A CHANCE. PENNER. END OPORTO CABLE.

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, ELECTIONS, NATIONAL ELECTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES, POLITICAL SITUATION

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 16 mar 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LISBON01967
Document Source: CORE

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: X1 Errors: N/A

Film Number: D780127-0948 Format: TEL From: LISBON

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

**Expiration:** 

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780361/aaaabzhx.tel

Line Count: 126 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 8d1e4bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 78 LISBON 1731, 78 OPORTO 56

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 31 may 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3311406 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: PSD: SA CARNEIRO SLATE WINS DISTRICT ELECTION

TAGS: PINT, PO, (CARNEIRO, SA)

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/8d1e4bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014